THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE V.V.S.RAO

WRIT PETITION No.17571 of 2006

25.8.2006

Between:

B.Arjuna Lakshmana Rao, S/o.Krishna Rao

… Petitioner

AND

The District Collector, West Godavari District, Eluru
And others

… Respondents

THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE V.V.S.RAO

WRIT PETITION No.17571 of 2006

ORDER:

The petitioner is owner of agricultural land admeasuring Acs.1.22 cents and Acs.0.97 in R.S.Nos.7/1 and 7/2 of Kopparru Village of Narsapur Mandal in West Godavari District. It appears that his two brothers, who are owners of land admeasuring Acs.0.96 cents in R.S.No.7/2, leased out the land to fourth respondent who subsequently purchased the same. The fourth respondent converted the land for the purpose of prawn culture and, therefore, the petitioner is not able to carry on his agricultural operations. He approached the respondents, in vain. Therefore, he filed the instant writ petition seeking a direction to respondents 1 and 2 to take necessary action against fourth respondent.

A Division Bench of this Court in **Madireddy Padma Rambabu v District Forest Officer, Kakinada**[1] decided similar cases and directed the Revenue Authorities not to permit the conversion of agricultural land for the purpose of fish culture/prawn culture/shrimp culture, and also directed to remove all the illegally developed prawn culture tanks. Therefore, this writ petition is disposed of, directing the third respondent to inspect the area, conduct enquiry and take appropriate action against fourth respondent after issuing notice to him. It is made clear that if the fourth respondent has already approached the Aquaculture Authority, Chennai, or has already obtained permission for conversion of land as prawn culture tank from such Authority, the same shall have to be taken into consideration by the third respondent. The enquiry may be completed and appropriate orders may be passed within a period of eight (8) weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

The writ petition, with the above observations and directions, is

accordingly disposed of. No costs.

(**V.V.S.RAO,J**)

August 25, 2006.

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[1] 2002(1) ALD 728 (DB)